

Subject:	Status of Women Advisory Committee – Minutes of Meeting	Page 1 of 7
File No:	CLR/07/8/101/1/11	
Document Ref:	D21/72148	
Venue:	Viz Teams and Meeting Room at NRO	
Date:	Wednesday 19 th May 2021	
Time:	6.00pm	Started at: 6.12pm Closed at: 7.40pm
Chair:	Councillor Pedersen	
Meeting Support (MS):	Linda Smith – EA to the Mayor and Councillors	
Staff Convenor:	Sean Willenberg	
Circulation:		

Committee Role:**The primary role of the Status of Women Advisory Committee is to:**

- Provide advice to Council on improving the ways in which women in the City of Ryde are able to participate and engage actively in all aspects of community and civic life.

Committee Members as per the Terms of Reference

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
x		Councillor Pedersen	Chairperson	City of Ryde
		Councillor Clifton	Councillor	City of Ryde
		Rose Torrosian	Community Representative	
		Brigid Meney	Community Representative	
		Belinda Taranto	Community Representative	
		Agnes Shim	Community Representative	
		Angelika Hollo	Community Representative	
		Roseanna Gallo	Community Representative	
		Rebecca Shin	Community Representative	
x		Akhila Nagarajan	Community Representative	
		Natalie Hissey	Community Representative	
	x	Margaret Mayger	Community Representative	
		Karen Nisbet Moulds	Community Representative	
		Lisa Smaljev	Community Representative	
x		Fiona Lamborn		Visitor
		Jessica Matthews		Visitor
		Wendy Evans		Visitor
		Carmen Platt		Visitor
		Katie Dumbrell		Visitor
		Nasrin Azizi		Visitor
x		Cate Sinclair		Visitor
	x	Jonathan Nanlohy	Community Projects Coordinator	City of Ryde
		Aileen Mountford		Lisa Hahn Foundation
		Sue Verhoek		City of Ryde
x		Linda Smith	EA to the Mayor and Councillors	City of Ryde
x		Sean Willenberg	Attended on behalf of Jonathan Nanlohy	City of Ryde

Details	Action
<p>1. Welcome and Apologies</p> <p>Clr Pedersen welcomed all present.</p> <p>Those present and apologies are as above.</p> <p>Clr Pedersen provided a Welcome to Country.</p>	As noted.
<p>2. Confirmation of previous meeting minutes</p> <p>The minutes from the meeting dated 18th February 2021 were noted.</p>	The information was noted.
<p>3. Guest Presenter – Cate Sinclair - The Northern Centre, SafeT Program</p> <p>Cate advised as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The program aims to offer a safe transition out of Domestic Violence - The Northern Centre works in early intervention, homelessness and with families in stress - Also works in other areas through small grants provided by Council and Bendigo Bank in particular - There is a big gap in services and in Ryde in particular - About 80% of clients come to the Centre due to domestic and family violence - It is hard to find safe and affordable accommodation for these people, but it is harder to keep them in that accommodation. - On average, a woman can leave a partner approx. 7 to 8 times before leaving for good. - The Centre offers different sorts of service – both inreach and outreach - People go back to abusive situations due to trauma and the difficulty in traversing different services especially when navigating the system with children - Often people seeking help are not in the headspace to be able to act on their own. They need support to tell them what to do and help them get to appointments - Many of the people who attend the Northern Centre are CALD. 80% of the people who seek legal help – which is offered pro bono are CALD. - During COVID there was a large increase in the level of reports of DV in all its formats - A 12-month pilot of SafeT has been funded - Two cases workers are being funded as a result - Also looking at leveraging some other services that exist outside the local area - Looking to have Northern Centre, Council and Bendigo Bank work together to provide funding for the SafeT program - It is hoped this will then result in a three year program being set up. - Often local business people approach the Northern Centre to say they don't know how to help people when they bring up DV with them. - In the 3 year program it is hoped to address this need in the community - Cate advised the committee can assist by talking about issues and advocating for change. Keeping the subject top of mind. - Could be advantageous to take the issue to NSROC. Penny tries to push the message at every opportunity when she meets with business groups - Fiona will also meet with contacts of hers and pass on news of the efforts Cate is making. 	The information was noted.
<p>5. Feedback on International Women's Day 2021</p> <p>Sean provided the following report on the event.</p>	

	Details	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 143 people attended the event which was sold out. - Not all attendees were from Ryde - The Darcy Street project which provided the meals, provided 143 meals to people sleeping rough as a result of the meals that were provided on the day in a pay it forward manner - Cllr Pedersen thanked staff for their efforts on the day - She mentioned that she has received wonderful feedback from attendees on the quality and comments of the speakers - Akhila agreed that the speakers were excellent and mentioned the Mayor - She thought the groups that made connections were important - As a speaker, Cate enjoyed the day and thought the location was good - She thanked the organisers for letting her take part - It was suggested that in future, two events be held – one for young people and one for the cohort that attends at present - Young people need a different agenda and a different style of event - Next year it would be good to start planning in the Sept prior to the event to get the speakers and others that are wanted on the day - Jonathan has a list of people who have said in the past that they will attend in future. - Want to expand the idea that IWD is just one day. Would like to have meaningful events throughout the year - Looking for topics and ideas to introduce throughout the year - One criticism was that there is no lectern that could be used by people with a disability - Penny to suggest that Council purchase a lectern which could perhaps be lent to other groups in the community 	The information was noted.
6.	<p>Make a stand against abuse – Planning for 16 days of activism 2021</p> <p>Sean provided the following feedback</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The podcasts have been a great success and are being linked by other organisations which is getting the information further into the community - They are being particularly embraced by groups who have a number of different nationalities that use their services - Facebook and other platforms are also being used in promotion - A major benefit of the podcasts is that they don't have an expiry date - In 2021, it is intended to hold the walk again and to probably hold it in Macquarie Park again - Lighting up Coulter Street was great and should be done again and maybe expanded. - Would be good to engage Jan Bouhali and the Women in Practice groups also some sports foundation members have shown an interest in getting involved - Events would be held in November - Would be good to engage with Epping Boys High again as the school is fully supportive of this program - Should reach out to all the local schools and try to get them involved - Approaches should be made especially to boys' schools and sporting clubs given the number of males in these groups - Need to reach out to all male sporting groups such as SkyCity and have them speak at events. - Would be good to find a champion within each school – needs to be a male preferably - Churches are another group that could be encouraged and engaged with - Need to plan events earlier and Council needs to determine who will be on the working group and contact schools and speakers early 	Noted
7.	<p>White Ribbon Workplace Accreditation – Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - White Ribbon Workplace Accreditation – Council has started the roll out - Separate events have been held for men and women 	Noted

	Details	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The event for women has been held and all male staff will be attending training at the end of the month - Managers will attend training on safety in June - A range of policies including risk and safety have been created - Have submitted the information to White Ribbon and should hear back in July if accreditation has been granted - Need to go through accreditation every three years 	
8.	<p>General Business:</p> <p><u>Clr Pedersen</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is putting forward motions to the next Council meeting on the following: - (1) the establishment of a women’s shelter in Ryde in conjunction with an increase in the level of affordable housing for women over 55 who might be facing homelessness. - There are similar set ups in Mosman and Beecroft and would be great to have one in Ryde - (2) Council join Greater Sydney Women’s Charter this involves work with planners etc to make streets safer for women - Clr Pedersen will be taking this to NSROC for support - Has been working to have women elected to local government in September - Lane Cove and Ryde have held events hosted by ALGWA - State Parliament has approved the payment of superannuation for Councillors. This will assist women in particular <p>Sean Willenberg</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Next week is Reconciliation Action Week - Good events have been arranged and Clr Pedersen will be speaking at one. - 28th May and 3rd June will be events. - 3rd June is at Events Cinema – all welcome - The RAP working party has Alison Salt as its Chair – Alison is an indigenous woman - Good viewing on SBS – Look what you made me do. - Letters will be provided for Committee members who wish to have a record of attendance provided for their CV. <p>Fiona Lamborn</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mentioned Oz Harvest and attendance at event - May attend the event in that capacity 	Noted.
9.	<p>Next Meeting:</p> <p>The next meeting of the Status of Women Advisory Committee will be held in August 2021.</p> <p>Council will then go into caretaker mode. Current committee members will be able to nominate to join a future committee.</p>	Noted